Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:OEXC (BICENTENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND)

SUBJECT:PROPOSED STUDY OF U.S.-IRANIAN EDUCATION LINKS; BICENTENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

REF: STATE 160961

- 1. DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE POST'S ASSESSMENT OF GOI AND/OR IRANIAN ACADEMIA RESPONSE TO PROJECT DESCRIBED IN REFTEL -- EVEN IF ONLY PRELIMINARY. WE WOULD LIKE TO INCORPORATE REFERENCE TO THE PROPOSED SURVEY IN MR. RICHARDSON'S REMARKS AT A PRESENTATION CEREMONY JULY 30. (SEE PARA 3 BELOW.)
- 2. POST MAY BE INTERESTED TO LEARN THAT IBRD OFFICIAL NECAT ERDER WAS INFORMALLY BRIEFED ON SURVEY BY DIRECTOR, OVERSEAS LIAISON COMMITTEE, PRIOR TO ERDER'S RECENT VISIT TO TEHRAN. UPON HIS RETURN ERDER REPORTED TO OLC DIRECTOR THAT HE HAD MENTIONED PROPOSED SURVEY TO PROFESSOR CHAMSEDDINE M. H. MOFIDI (RPT MOFIDI. NAME MISSPELLED IN PARA 5 OF REFTEL.) MOFIDI WELCOMED PROJECT AND EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT U.S. SHARES CONCERNS IMPLICIT IN PROPOSAL. ACCORDING TO ERDER, MOFIDI IDENTIFIED HIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OFFICE (CENTRAL COUNCIL OF UNIVERSITIES AND ACADEMIC IN-

STITUTIONS, MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND HIGHER EDUCATION) AS LOGICAL IRANIAN COLLABORATOR WITH SURVEY TEAM.

3. CEREMONY MENTIONED ABOVE SCHEDULED FOR AFTERNOON OF JULY 30 DURING WHICH AMBASSADOR ZAHEDI WILL PRESENT ASST. SECRETARY RICHARDSON WITH CHECK TO FUND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IN HONOR OF BICENTENNIAL. SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED TO AMERICAN STUDENTS, WITH SOME RESERVED FOR KENT STATE, FOR STUDY IN IRAN. REPORTED AMOUNT IS EIGHTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, WITH POSSIBILITY IT MAY BE RAISED TO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS. MINISTER COUNSELOR KAZEMIAN ASSURES US THAT PROGRAM WILL BE ONGOING WITH ALLOCATIONS MADE ANNUALLY. KISSINGER

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TAGS: OEXC, IR, US

To: TEHRAN

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